

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph at page 44, lines 32 through 35 with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 22 and 23 show[[s]] the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 22, which indicates a site polymorphic between 24 rice varieties, as well as the sequences of primers for amplifying a DNA region comprising that site.

Please replace the paragraph from page 44, line 36 through page 45, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. [[23]] 24 shows the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 23, which indicates a site polymorphic between 24 rice varieties, as well as the sequences of primers for amplifying a DNA region comprising that site.

Please replace the paragraph at page 45, lines 4 through 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. [[24]] 25 shows the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24, which indicates a site polymorphic between 24 rice varieties, as well as the sequences of primers for amplifying a DNA region comprising that site.

Please replace the paragraph at page 45, lines 8 through 11 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. [[25]] 26 shows the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25, which indicates a site polymorphic between 24 rice varieties, as well as the sequences of primers for amplifying a DNA region comprising that site.

Please replace the paragraph at page 45, lines 12 through 15 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. [[26]] 27 shows the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26, which indicates a site polymorphic between 24 rice varieties, as well as the sequences of primers for amplifying a DNA region comprising that site.

Please replace the paragraph at page 45, lines 16 through 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. [[27]] 28 shows the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27, which indicates a site polymorphic between 24 rice varieties, as well as the sequences of primers for amplifying a DNA region comprising that site.

Please replace the paragraph at page 45, lines 16 through 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. [[28]] 29 shows the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28, which indicates a site polymorphic between 24 rice varieties, as well as the sequences of primers for amplifying a DNA region comprising that site.

Please delete the paragraphs at page 45, lines 24 through 27, which starts with “Fig. 29 shows”.